

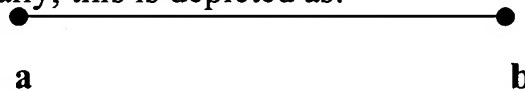
Remarks

Claims 1-15 are pending in the application. Claims 1-7 and 11-15 are rejected. Claims 8-10 are objected to. All rejections and objections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 8 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 8 and 13 has been amended to correctly indicate dependencies.

The Examiner states that ‘interval’ in claim 13 is unclear. In mathematics, an *interval* is formally and universally defined as:

An interval is a connected portion of the real line.
If the endpoints **a** and **b** are finite and are included,
the interval is called closed and is denoted [**a**, **b**].”
Graphically, this is depicted as:



see, at MathWorld “<http://mathworld.wolfram.com/Interval.html>”.

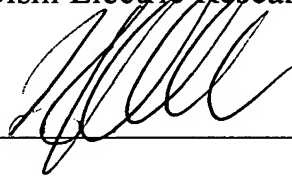
Therefore, the claimed limitations “weight α is in an interval [0.1, 0.3]” means that the weight is a real number in the closed interval 0.1 to 0.3. This is consistent with the formal definition of *interval*, and this would be understood by anyone of ordinary skill in simple mathematics. Applicant respectfully request the Examiner to explain with greater specificity why he believes “interval is unclear.”

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 8, and any intervening claims.

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. Should further questions arise concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the number listed below. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account 50-0749.

Respectfully submitted,
Mitsubishi Electric Research Laboratories, Inc.

By



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